

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

#### **Call to Order:**

**CHAIRMAN ART NOONAN**, on January 12, 2009 at 3:03 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

#### **Members Present:**

Rep. Art Noonan, Chairman (D)  
Rep. Harry Klock, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)  
Rep. Carlie Boland (D)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)  
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)  
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)  
Rep. Keith Regier (R)  
Rep. Scott Reichner (R)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)  
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** Rep. Robyn Driscoll, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)

**Staff Present:** Bryce Bennett, Committee Secretary  
Todd Everts, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB82, 1/5/2009; HB118, 1/5/2009;  
HB158, 1/5/2009; HB162, 1/5/2009

Executive Action: None.

**HEARING ON HB 118**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:14 REP. HARRY KLOCK (R), HD 83, opened the hearing on HB  
118, Revise distribution of 911 funds.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:08:13 Becky Berger, Montana 911

[EXHIBIT\(feh06a01\)](#)

00:09:07 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association

00:02:54 Bonnie Lorang, Montana Independent Telecommunications  
Association (MITS)

00:10:09 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties

**Opponents' Testimony:** none.

**Informational Testimony:**none.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:11:44 Rep. Wiseman

00:12:29 Ms. Wood

00:12:03 Ms. Berger

00:14:04 Rep. Wiseman

00:14:14 Rep. Phillips

00:14:57 Ms. Berger

00:15:03 Rep. Phillips

00:15:15 Ms. Berger

00:15:52 Rep. Phillips

00:16:00 Ms. Berger

00:16:12 Rep. Regier

00:16:18 Ms. Berger

00:17:28 Rep. Regier

00:17:43 Ms. Berger

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:18:04 Rep. Klock

**HEARING ON HB 158**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:18:40 **REP. SHANNON AUGARE (D), HD 16**, opened the hearing on  
**HB 158**, Tribal eligibility for economic development  
loans.  
00:19:56 Rep. Driscoll arrived at the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:22:12 Lesa Evers, Governor's Office  
**EXHIBIT (feh06a02)**  
00:25:39 Quinn Ness, Montana Department of Commerce  
**EXHIBIT (feh06a03)**  
00:27:06 Kathleen Burrage, Crow Tribe  
00:28:21 Pam Busy, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes  
**EXHIBIT (feh06a04)**  
00:28:46 Heather Sobrepena-George, State Tribal Economic  
Development Commission  
00:30:06 Rep. Roundstone  
00:31:19 Sean White Wolf, business owner  
00:32:02 Mike Pichette, Northwestern Energy

**Opponents' Testimony:** none.

**Informational Testimony:** none.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** none.

**Closing by Sponsor:** none.

**HEARING ON HB 162**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:34:01 **REP. J. DAVID ROUNDSTONE (D), HD 41**, opened the hearing  
on **HB 162**, Remove coal board grant limitation.  
**EXHIBIT (feh06a05)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:36:23 Lesa Evers, Governor's Office  
**EXHIBIT (feh06a06)**  
00:38:42 Kathleen Burrage, Crow Tribe  
00:39:20 Pam Busy, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

00:39:40 Heather Sobrepena-George, State Tribal Economic  
Commission

[EXHIBIT\(feh06a07\)](#)

00:40:42 Dave Cole, Department of Commerce

[EXHIBIT\(feh06a08\)](#)

00:49:35 Sean White Wolf, Northern Cheyenne.

**Opponents' Testimony:** none.

**Informational Testimony:** none.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** none.

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:50:13 Rep. Roundstone

[EXHIBIT\(feh06a09\)](#)

## **HEARING ON HB 82**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:53:40 REP. ROBYN DRISCOLL (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on  
HB 82, Revise deposit of stranded 911 revenue.

[EXHIBIT\(feh06a10\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:56:39 Becky Berger, Montana 911

[EXHIBIT\(feh06a11\)](#)

01:00:33 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association

01:01:15 Bonny Lorang, Montana Independent Telecom Systems  
(MITS)

01:02:48 Sheryl Wood, Montana Association of Counties

**Opponents' Testimony:** none.

**Informational Testimony:** none.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:03:54 Rep. Phillips

01:04:48 Rep. Driscoll

01:04:56 Rep. Phillips

01:05:22 Ms. Berger

01:08:18 Rep. Phillips

01:08:49 Ms. Berger

01:08:54 Rep. Wiseman

01:09:19 Ms. Berger

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01:09:25 Rep. Wiseman

01:09:58 Ms. Berger

01:10:02 Rep. Wiseman

01:10:40 Ms. Berger

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:11:05 Rep. Driscoll

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:15 P.M.

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BRYCE BENNETT, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([feh06aad.pdf](#))**